

Twentieth Sunday of Pentecost ~ October 6, 2024

Abiding Hope Lutheran Church

2402 West Grandview Blvd, Erie, PA 16506

Rev. Karen Parsh, Pastor

Sheryl Williams, Coordinator of Music



Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ from Pastor...

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross that sign that marked us at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Host at every table, Companion of the suffering, Spirit of resurrection life. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another. God of letting go,

We confess that we fill ourselves with empty riches while our neighbors starve. God of the cross, We confess that we grasp for dreams of wealth and reject your path of sacrificial love. God who knows our pain, We confess that we become numb or grumpy when you invite us into compassion.

God who saves, feeds, and heals, We repent of setting the table too small. We lament our habits of scarcity and distrust. We renounce the lures of prosperity and seek your reign of joy and peace.

People of God, we are both sinners and saints: God's table is set for all creation. In Jesus Christ, all our sins are forgiven all our fears are cast aside and all our neighbors are fed. Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Praise the Holy Spirit who gives us abundant life! **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

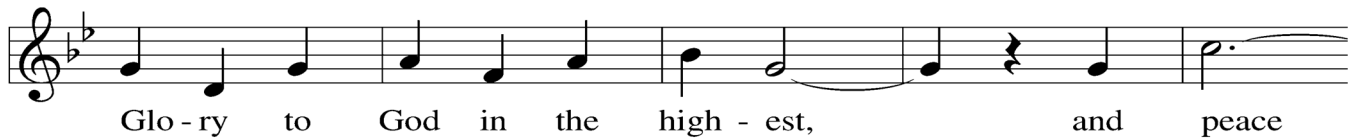
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ~ ELW 520 *Dearest Jesus at Your Word*

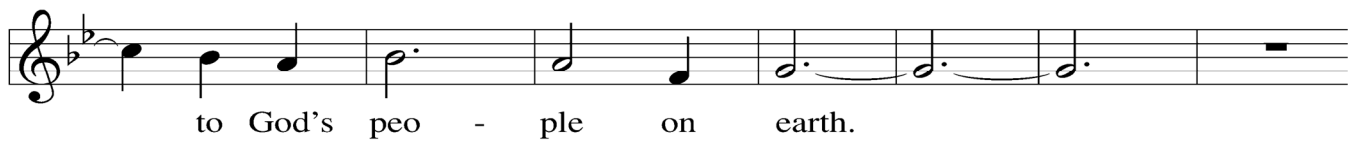
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE ~ WOV 607 *Glory to God (cont'd p. 3)*



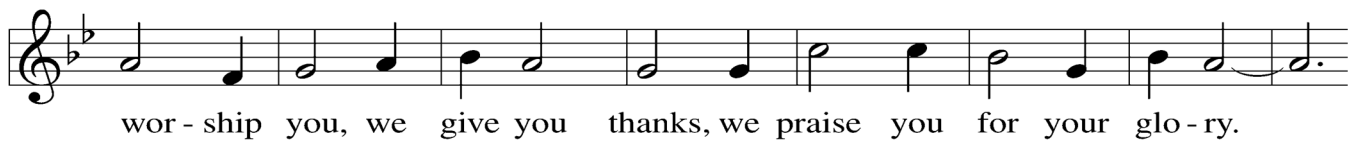
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



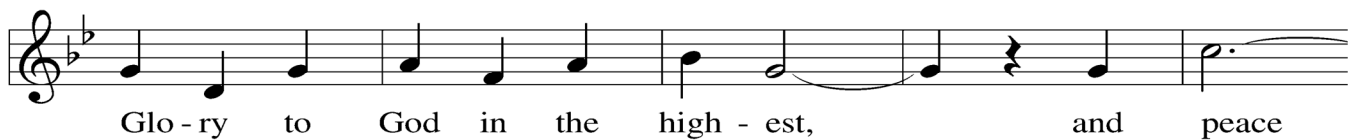
to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord

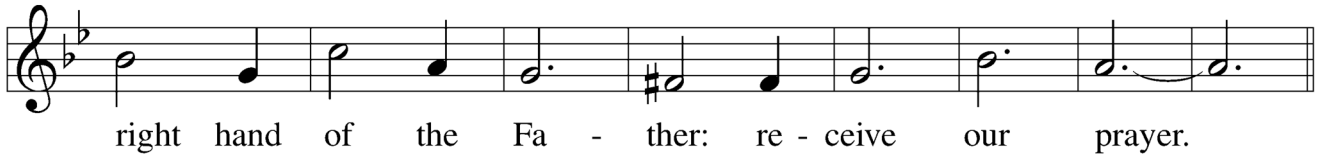


God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

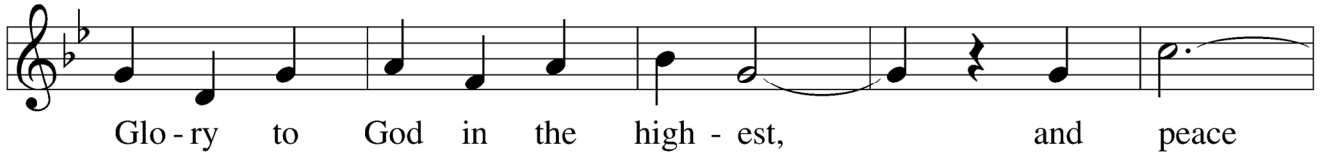


world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

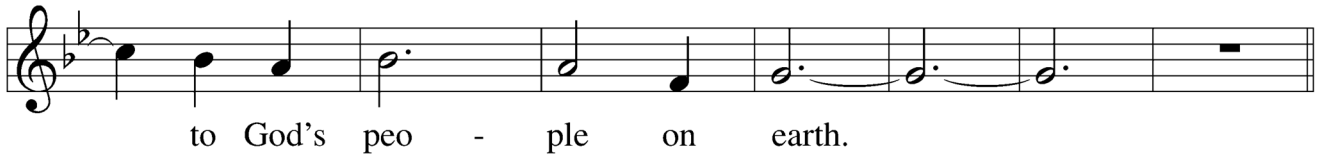
HYMN OF PRAISE ~ WOV 607 *Glory to God (cont'd p. 2)*



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



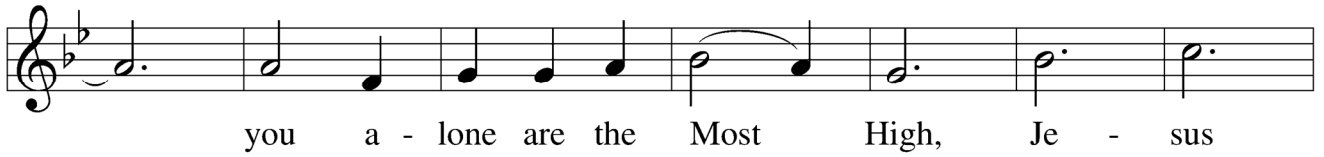
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



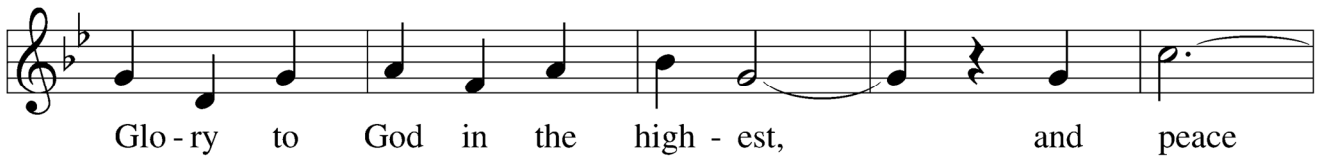
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus



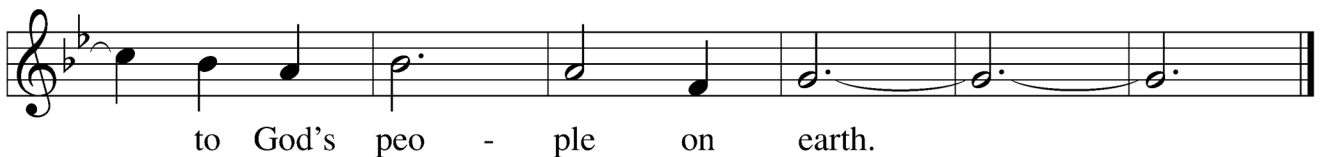
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men, a - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let's pray together.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Holy God, you have given up everything to be with us. Open our hearts that we may learn your lavish, loving ways and pattern our lives on your generosity. We pray this through Jesus Christ, unending gift of mercy, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

¹⁸The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks**

PSALM 8 SUNG RESPONSIVELY



O¹ Lord our Lord,

how majestic is your name in¹ all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in-¹ fants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe¹ and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work¹ of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set¹ in their courses,

**⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mind-¹ ful of them,
human beings that you should¹ care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less¹ than divine;
with glory and hon-¹ or you crown them.

**⁶You have made them rule over the works¹ of your hands;
you have put all things un-¹ der their feet:**

⁷all ¹flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts ¹of the field,
⁸the birds of the air, the fish ¹of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths ¹of the sea.
⁹O ¹Lord our Lord,
how majestic is your name in ¹all the earth!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,
⁸subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ WOV 613

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation 'Alleluia'. Both staves are in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The first staff has a final note with a fermata, and the second staff has a final double bar line. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes on both staves.

GOSPEL: John 6:24-38

The Holy Gospel according to St John, the 6th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²⁻²⁴ The next day the crowd that was left behind realized that there had been only one boat, and that Jesus had not gotten into it with his disciples. They had seen them go off without him. By now boats from Tiberias had pulled up near where they had eaten the bread blessed by the Master. So when the crowd realized he was gone and wasn't coming back, they piled into the Tiberias boats and headed for Capernaum, looking for Jesus.

²⁵ When they found him back across the sea, they said, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

²⁶ Jesus answered, "You've come looking for me not because you saw God in my actions but because I fed you, filled your stomachs — and for free.

The Bread of Life

²⁷ "Don't waste your energy striving for perishable food like that. Work for the food that sticks with you, food that nourishes your lasting life, food the Son of Man provides. He and what he does are guaranteed by God the Father to last."

²⁸ To that they said, "Well, what do we do then to get in on God's works?"

²⁹ Jesus said, "Sign on with the One that God has sent. That kind of a commitment gets you in on God's works."

³⁰⁻³¹ They waffled: "Why don't you give us a clue about who you are, just a hint of what's going on? When we see what's up, we'll commit ourselves. Show us what you can do. Moses fed our ancestors with bread in the desert. It says so in the Scriptures: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

³²⁻³³ Jesus responded, "The real significance of that Scripture is not that Moses gave you bread from heaven but that my Father is right now offering you bread from heaven, the *real* bread. The Bread of God came down out of heaven and is giving life to the world."

³⁴ They jumped at that: "Master, give us this bread, now and forever!"

³⁵⁻³⁸ Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life. The person who aligns with me hungers no more and thirsts no more, ever. I have told you this explicitly because even though you have seen me in action, you don't really believe me. Every person the Father gives me eventually comes running to me. And once that person is with me, I hold on and don't let go. I came down from heaven not to follow my own agenda but to accomplish the will of the One who sent me.

Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON ~ Pastor Karen Parsh

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ ELW 618 *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation:

God of our ancestors, we give thanks for the church in all times. May we listen for the prophets of this age who bear messages that stir the church toward renewal and justice.

God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Creator of every creature on earth, direct our lives toward the renewal and sustaining of cattle, birds of the air, animals of the field, and those who share our homes. Reveal the ways we can work alongside creation for the health and well-being of all. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, we give thanks that you are mindful and benevolent to even us, mere mortals. Accompany us when hardness of heart gets in the way of justice between people and nations. Endow leaders with minds for justice and hearts for compassion. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Restoring Lord, grant healing and wholeness to those who are sick and suffering especially Carolyn, Rick, Brian, Paul, Larry, Evelyn, Esther, Judy, Mary, Walter, Kathi, Ken & Donna, Karen & Dave, Tom, John, Don & Donna, our Little Library friends requesting our prayers and anyone we say aloud or in our hearts. Work through medical professionals to diagnose, ease pain, and give life to all who seek their wisdom and experience. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Unifying God, humans were created for relationship with the earth, its creatures, and one another. Forgive us when division threatens companionship, mutual support, and unity among us. May your love inspire us to build supportive communities of faith where all are cherished. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

God of resurrection, you prepare a place in the kingdom through Christ's death and resurrection. We give thanks for the saints who have taken their place at your heavenly banquet. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed are you, God of creation. You fashion the rhythms of the planet and send water to nourish all life. The mightiest oceans and smallest streams glorify you.

We praise you for the gift of water. We praise you for abundant waters. When we lose our way, you revive us and remind us of our place in creation. Through the life and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, born of water, we are drawn anew into your sacred rhythms. We praise you for the gift of baptism. We praise you for abundant blessings.

Breathe your Spirit into everyone gathered here and into all who yearn for hope. Strengthen us for lives of passionate justice and bold peacemaking, fed and watered by your merciful presence. We praise you for abundant mercy. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

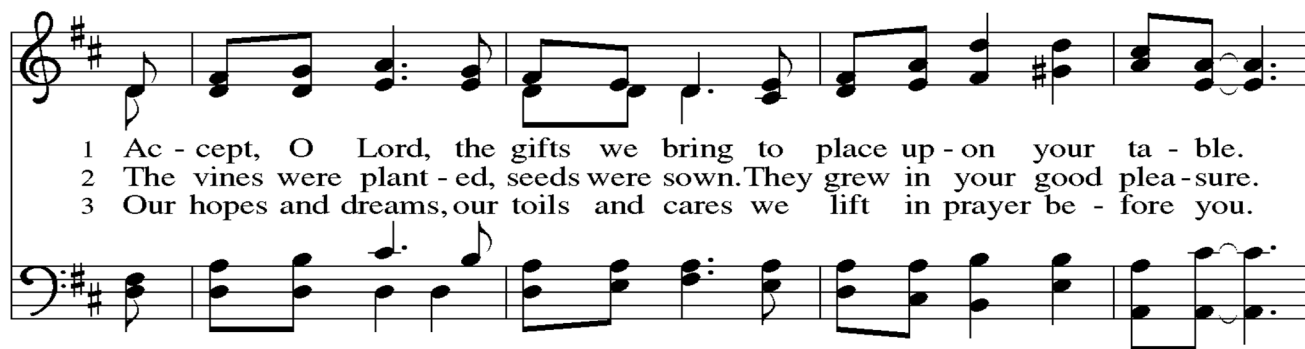
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

OFFERING ~ "The Lord of Love My Shepherd Is" arr. K. Lee Scott

OFFERTORY HYMN ~ ELW 691 *Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring*



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together. **Blessed are you, God of surprising grace. You call us to bold acts of kindness and brave gestures of solidarity. Receive and hallow these offerings of our time and treasure. Multiply these gifts so that your reign of plenty and peace may be known by all, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

We celebrate the Holy Spirit, who hovered over creation and brought order out of formlessness. We celebrate the Divine Spirit, who filled Jesus with power and wisdom and, through him, made divine life available to all. We celebrate the Spirit, who has been poured out on all people, and leads us into the Kingdom of God. And so, as we gather at this table, we recognize the Spirit's Presence among us, and we open our hearts to the Spirit's influence. Together we offer our praise and join in the hymn of all creation:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord WOV 619a



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:



heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high-est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na



in the high-est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

God of open doors and messy tables, you have risked everything to set a feast for us. We praise and bless you for the scandal of your wide welcome. Hear our prayers, share our hunger for justice, and satisfy our longing for you.

Long ago, you brought the world to birth and gave everything life. You set us down within a holy dance of provision and caretaking. Help us to know your love in the gifts of food, water, work, play, and rest. Come Holy Spirit!

When we squandered these gifts and forgot the rhythms of creation, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, born of blood and water, our human brother yet fully divine. With your abundant mercy, he taught us your ways of compassion and justice, and gave himself as food for all. Come, Lord Jesus!

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all the drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Awaiting the full arrival of God's abundant feast, together we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Now send your Spirit to bless this table and extend the feast, that all may share your goodness.

Come, Lord Jesus! Come, Lord Jesus! Come Holy Spirit! Come Holy Spirit! Let all the saints cry "Amen!" **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

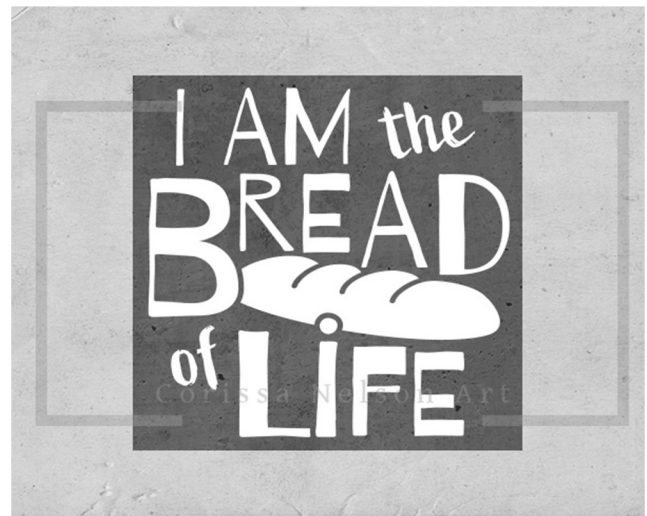
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God.



LAMB OF GOD ~ WOV 621



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION HYMNS ~ ELW 515 *Break Now the Bread of Life*

Instrumental Meditation

Please stand.

PASTORAL BLESSING

May the God of crowded tables feed you. May the God of truth fully see you. May the God of hope sustain you for the journey and keep you in grace, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Thank you, God our provider, for this meal of grace. May the mercies we have tasted here make us quick to share and ready to welcome others, as you have welcomed and loved us fully. Let all our tables bear witness to your abundant life, good and gracious God. Amen**

SENDING HYMN ~ ELW 685 *Take My Life, That I Might Be*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bounty. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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PARISH NOTES ~ OCTOBER 6, 2024

Pastor Karen Parsh ~ 814-881-3266

Office: 814-868-8685 ~ ahadministrator@hotmail.com

FB: [abidinghopelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/abidinghopelutheranchurch) ~ www.abidinghopeerie.org



Please keep these members and friends in your prayers: Carolyn Mariotti, Brian Gresh, Dr Paul Mirone, Larry Ruhlman, Rick Penn, Donna Knight (Sondra Marshall's mother), Esther Klalamp, Judy Nordin, Mary Randall, Walter Nunemaker Pastor Clay's nephew), Kathi (Cindy Filson's sister), Pastor Karen & Dave, Ken & Donna Bagamery, (Jeanne Tropper's sister-in-law), Tom Cirillo, John Belek, Don & Donna Holder, Evelyn Senger, and our Little Library friends requesting prayers.

Receiving Communion: If it is a challenge for you to come forward to receive communion, please alert the usher and you will be served communion at your seat.

TODAY, Sunday, October 6th: @ 9:00 (warm-up) (no Bible study or choir due to The Chosen viewing)

TODAY: Sunday, October 6 ~ 11:00 in Fellowship Hall initial showing of The Chosen. The Chosen, a multi-season TV series about the life of Jesus Christ will be aired in FH the 1st and 3rd Sunday beginning October 6. The series depicts Jesus through the eyes of those who knew him. Discussion time to follow each showing.

Wednesday, October 8th: AHLC's Lunch & Listen continues with a series of informative, interesting and, at times, humorous speakers. Join us as Pastor Ralph tells his life story in word and song. The presentation will include a variety of original songs written by Pastor Ralph, as prayer, for worship, for children, for pure enjoyment, and songs written for his wife, Jo. Do not miss this unique mixture of word and song. BYO lunch 12n, speaker, 12:30. Complimentary beverages & dessert.

The 49th annual **Crop Walk** event that supports the Kearsarge Food Panty and Second Harvest Food Bank was held last Sunday. To donate please see Analee or donate online before Oct 13th.

Boscov Saving Day is coming October 22: Purchase a 25% off Boscov Discount card for \$5 from Analee or anyone in the office. All money collected benefits AHLC and you save 25% off your Boscov purchase on October 22nd. Everyone's a winner.

Monday, October 7th: Ladies are welcome to join the "Prayer Shawl" Gathering, 10a-12noonish for prayer, good conversation, knitting/crocheting shawls, prayer cards, lap robes for the homebound. Start a new or maybe complete a piece you've started, but not quite finished. Experience not necessary, showing "how to" will gladly be offered. The group will meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month in the Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday, October 15th is World Food Day – Celebrating 50 Years of ELCA World Hunger. More than 820 million people - that's about 11 percent of people in our world today - are hungry. As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Give today (online, or through Abiding Hope's offering plate).

Prayer Warriors will not be meeting in the sanctuary in October, but everyone is encouraged to pray/meditate wherever you are in solidarity on Wednesday, October 16 between 1:00-3:00 for the needs of our church community and the world beyond. Jesus said, "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20

Saturday, October 19: Plans are in full swing for the **Pumpkin Fest**. Volunteers are not only a vital part, but also an asset, in making this event a successful community outreach program. A form to sign with a list of areas where people are needed is on the center table in the narthex. Please consider offering a couple hours of your time to help out ... you'll have fun and be greatly award by the smiles and laughter of the children attending.

Next Pumpkin Fest Volunteer Team meeting: Tuesday, October 9th at 12:30.

All Saints' Day is Sunday, November 3rd when we remember those who have passed before us in faith. On Nov 3rd, we will, once again, honor those in who has passed before us during the service and in a memorial list. If you would like to have your loved one included, please complete the form available in the narthex or on page 20 of this bulletin.

Office Hours: For Pastoral emergencies, please contact Pastor Karen @ 814-881-3266. NOTE: Pastor Karen will be out of town from Sunday afternoon returning Wednesday.

Little Library Update: God is so faithful to this ministry! We are not in need of books right now, but donations of bookmarks with room for an Abiding Hope address label would be appreciated! The pantry can use dried fruit, meals in pouches or microwave containers, cereals, pasta, rice, juice boxes, packages of graham crackers, and peanut butter in plastic jars. How grateful we are for your generous donations! --you are truly impacting our neighborhood! -Connie Kerr-Vogt.

KAFP Project Dignity: October Items: Hair Care Products. Donations can be place in the basket on the shelf in the Heritage Room.

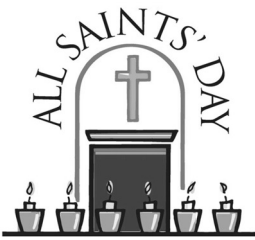
Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to donate flowers for Sunday worship, weekly sign-up and request forms are on the table in narthex. Arrangements- \$20.00 each. Place the completed form and payment in the offering plate, or to the office by the Monday prior your chosen Sunday.

August Finances

Income	\$3,637.00	Year to Date	\$76,037.03
Expenses	\$9,751.96	Year to Date	\$90,826.16
Difference	-\$6,114.96	Year to Date	-\$14,789.13
YTD Budget \$90,051.68			

Worship Leaders Sunday October 6, 2024

Videographer	Penny Gresh
Greeter/Coffee	Nancy Cunning
Lector/Prayers	Judi Pacileo
Assisting Min/Acolyte	Analee Cree
Communion Cups	Nancy Cunning
Communion Tray	Cindy Filson
Presenter	Lois Kuhns
Presenter	Carolyn Hayes
Usher	John Holmberg
Usher	Andy Saska
Counters	Rich and Diana



*2024 Abiding Hope
All Saints' Observances
Sunday, November 3rd*



Remembering those who have passed on or before us in faith is very important. As part of our worship services on Sunday, November 3rd, All Saints Sunday, we will honor those in a memorial insert. If you would like to have you loved one(s) included, please list below.

Submitted by: _____

**Please PRINT CLEARLY, place the form in the offering plate by Sunday,
Oct. 27th or return to the office by Monday, Oct. 28th.**